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LETTER DATED 8 FEBRUARY 1993 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF CROATIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to submit, enclosed herewith, a letter dated 8 February 1993 by the Prime Minister of the Republic of Croatia, Mr. Hrvoje Sarinic, addressed to you.

I would be grateful if this letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Mario NOBILO
Ambassador
Permanent Representative.

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Annex

Letter dated 8 February 1993 from the Prime Minister of Croatia addressed to the Secretary-General

The Republic of Croatia is, at this very moment, exposed to war actions aimed at elimination of the remaining members of Croatian population in the UNPA zone, Sector South and the surrounding area.

"FR of Yugoslavia", its volunteer phalanxes, paramilitary formations of the so-called "Knin authorities" exterminate the traces of the last remnants of Croatian population in the above-mentioned area, expelling hundreds of persons and simultaneously destroying their homes and property. On Sunday, 31 January 1993 alone, with assistance of UNPROFOR and EC monitors, 177 Croats who had been forcibly expelled from the Knin area: Knin, Potkonje, Kovacice and other places, came to Sibenik.

In the area between Knin and Miljevac plateau, UNPA zone, Sector South and its adjacent "Pink Zone", about 900 Croats have been exposed to terror, robbery and arbitrary killings. According to the latest information in possession of the Croatian Government, in the village of Vrpolje, 5 km north-east of Knin, Serbian paramilitary formations and so-called "volunteers" of "FR of Yugoslavia", hold in custody as hostages 263 members of Croatian population who were forcibly taken away from the Knin area.

The territory of the Republic of Croatia, formally under UNPROFOR protection, is a scene of terror and genocide. The remaining members of Croatian population are hostages of foreign irregular units and rebellious paramilitary formations, the instrument of extortion of the Republic of Croatia.

The Government of the Republic of Croatia, along with the efforts of the UNPROFOR Force Commander and EC Monitor Mission are not able, at this moment, to stop the above-mentioned grave breaches of war and international humanitarian law. Therefore, Your Excellency, I call for an energetic action on your part and on the part of the United Nations Security Council, aimed at rapid liberation of all the hostages and final implementation of effective measures for protection of the remaining members of Croatian population in the area.

Up to now, unfortunately, 3,000 people have been expelled and 500 killed in the territory under UNPROFOR protection.

Hrvoje SARINIC
Prime Minister